

SDAHA Spring Meeting Minutes
April 9th, 2022

Attending the meeting as voting delegates were Tony Leif (SDAHA President), Mike Hunter (SDAHA Vice President), Jeff Scheel (SDAHA Treasurer), Duke Witte (Aberdeen), Sam Johnson (Brandon Valley), John Kahle (Brookings), Curtis Bales (Huron), Mark Zens (Mitchell), Nathan Sanderson (Oahe), Dan Laughlin (Rapid City), Jeremy Van Den Berg (Sioux Center), Adam Gorra (Sioux Falls), Lucas Deutsch (Watertown), & Brian Wenisch (Yankton).

Also attending the meeting were Jenni Wirkus (SDAHA Executive Director), Jared Ahlberg (SDAHA RIC) Cherry Hunter (SDAHA Risk Manager), Curtis Egan (SDAHA Growth & Retention), Rob Kittay (SDAHA CIC/Boys Development), Shelby Edwards (SDAHA Girls Development), Matt Tobin & Noelle Needham (Sioux Falls Power), Dave Tronnes (Northern Plains Rep), Shane Wirkus, Justin Kirchhevel, Tom Gruenig, Jared Lueders, Eric Sabers, Duane & Juli Duden (Siouxland Sled Hockey), Trevor Preston & Nancy Preston.

A Quorum was determined and President Leif called the meeting to order at 9 AM.

President Leif reviewed the agenda with the BOD and asked for approval to add the two proposals to the agenda requiring a $\frac{2}{3}$ vote. A motion was made by SFYH & 2nd by OHA to add the proposal to the agenda on Girls Varsity officials. Motion passed.. A motion was also made by AHA and 2nd by WHA to add the proposal on the Boys JV resurfacing to the agenda. Motion passed. President Leif asked for approval of the agenda, motion was made by OHA & 2nd by AHA to accept the agenda. Motion Passed!

Fall 2021 Meeting minutes were reviewed, motion by OHA and 2nd by Mitchell to approve the minutes as written. Motion Passed!

Treasurer Jeff Scheel presented the treasurer report with a detailed review of the financials. Motion was made by OHA and 2nd by WHA to accept the treasurer's report as written. Motion Passed!

President Leif gave a brief Presidents report on items from the USA Hockey Winter Meeting he attended in January. Most notably, USA Hockey approved an increase in player registration fees for the 2022-2023 season. The fee structure has been sent to the BOD members via email and President Leif noted that SDAHA did not increase the affiliate fee that is charged to our members during registration, it will remain at \$9.

VP Mike Hunter, Discipline Chair, recapped his report on the Game Misconducts & discipline in SDAHA for the season.

Executive Director Wirkus touched on scheduling for the 2022-2023 season and noted that the season will likely begin the weekend before Thanksgiving. She also noted that the SDAHA Girls Weekend will be held again this year in Sioux Falls November 11-13th. In addition, the Senior Showcase will be held the same weekend in Sioux Falls likely on the 12th & 13th.

Registrar Annette Stensgaard was not in attendance at the meeting & no report was given.

RIC Ahlberg reported on officiating numbers for the season. He noted that six seminars were held last season and anyone wishing to host one for the upcoming season should contact him to get on the schedule. Referee Jeff Rink will be attending training to get the certifications to be an instructor and will help the RIC with seminars for the upcoming season.

SDAHA Executive Director Jenni Wirkus recapped the season's officiating schedule and reminded associations of the importance of recruiting for new officials in the off season.

Cherry Hunter, SDAHA Risk Manager, touched on the SDAHA rostering issues from the season. A reminder was given to everyone that roster violations void the insurance coverage of everyone involved in a game where a violation occurs and it puts SDAHA at risk. It was encouraged that associations to have a local Risk Manager that is independent of their board. Cherry noted 20 background screening issues from the season many of which were able to be resolved and only a couple of them where the individual was not allowed to participate for the season. She also noted that Safesport coordinators jurisdiction is items pertaining to sexual, physical and emotional abuse and not playing rules violations. Associations should make an attempt to handle issues locally if possible.

Curtis Egan reported his next scheduled call with USA Hockey is coming up on 4/18/22. He is working with the Wild to try to bring a camp to our area and anyone with growth ideas or needs should reach out to him.

Shellby Edwards spoke on the Girls Player Development Camp coming up on 4/22-4/24. Shelby noted she is willing to work with the local associations to help with growth & retention of players. She is available for group presentations and associations just need to reach out to her with questions. She is also working on a video on development for players in SDAHA.

Rob Kittay spoke on the Boys Player Development Camp noting registrations currently at 108 and hoping to get to last year's total of 138. Rob recapped the advancement options for players selected to move on from the camp and the coaching staff which will be helping to lead the on ice training.

Coach in Chief, Rob Kittay reported on our current coaching numbers and last season's CEP Clinics. The NPD presented 21 seminars and helped train 1950 coaches of which 364 were from NPD. Two coaches received temporary coaching cards for the season. Rob recapped that coaches must attend an annual clinic until they get to Level 4 and must also do Safesport each year, have a valid background check and complete their modules.

Jenni Wirkus, TSD Boys Coordinator, reported on the TSD seasons and their run at the National Tournament last week. Tryouts for the 2022-2023 team are set for June 3rd-5th at the Iceplex and associations were asked to encourage their members to attend the tryouts.

Matt Tobin was in attendance along with Noelle Needham representing the Sioux Falls Power. Matt reported that they fielded teams at the 18U, 16U, 15U, 14U and 13U levels this season. Three players have made D1 commitments (including 1 from Sioux Falls), 7 NAHL commitments and 5 USHL commitments. Sioux Falls Power has been accepted into the Tier I Elite league which they have been working to get into for the last several years. In the Fall they will be building some of their own space for their program onto the Scheels Iceplex. Tryouts for the Power are 4/29-5/1 in Sioux Falls. Matt was asked if there was any plan to add a Tier I Girls program to power and noted that there were currently not any plans as they feel lack of opponents and availability of Tier I players is still a barrier in this area.

Local Association reports were given by all 11 Delegates. Delegates discussed team counts for 2022-2023, upcoming fundraising, rink improvement information and goals for next season.

Dave Tronnes, Northern Plains District Rep, announced dates for a NP Meeting August 19-21 at the Deadwood Gulch Convention Center. This meeting will be open to anyone and more information will be sent out soon to SDAHA. Dave also discussed a SDAHA Hockey Hall of Fame and requested the blessing from the BOD to form a committee to start working on a plan of what a potential Hall of Fame may look like. This committee would work through the summer on ideas and present something at the Fall meeting for BOD approval to move forward. The BOD was in agreement to allow the formation of a committee for this purpose.

New Business:

Treasurer Scheel discussed a Conflict of Interest Policy and provided a sample for the BOD to review. Per our last audit, USA Hockey noted we did not have a policy and suggested that we work to implement one. Motion was made by AHA and 2nd by HHA for SDAHA to adopt a Conflict of Interest Policy & allow the Executive Board to create a form and procedure for this policy. Motion Passed!

Treasurer Scheel presented a Records Retention Policy for SDAHA. Motion was made by OHA and 2nd by SFYH to adopt the policy as written. Motion Passed!

Treasurer Scheel presented a Credit Card Resolution to allow SDAHA to incur debt through a credit card. He noted that the SDAHA debit card does not always offer us the options to purchase items with a large price tag, such as airline tickets for TSD, due to our daily limits. A credit card would also allow us to potentially earn cash back on purchases for SDAHA. Treasurer Scheel requested a credit card with a maximum limit of \$40,000 and noted all purchases would be paid off on a monthly basis. Motion was made by OHA and 2nd by Yankton to accept the resolution. Motion Passed!

Proposals:

1. Playing Rules Section 4F Freeze 10: Request to change the language of JV to "attached lower level" to include the Girls 14U Division in the lock.

Motion was made by AHA & 2nd by SFYH to adopt the proposal as written. Motion failed with 2 yes votes, 10 no votes and 1 association abstaining.

2. Playing Rule 6 Officials/Referee System: Request to change GV officials back to a 2 man system.

Motion was made by OHA and 2nd by RHA to accept the proposal as written. Motion passed unanimously!

3. Playing Rule 8 Game Play: Request to have a warm up length of 5 minutes at all levels other than Varsity which would be an 8 minute warm up.

Motion was made by HHA and 2nd by AHA to accept the proposal as written. Motion passed with 9 yes votes & 4 no votes!

4. Playing Rule 8 C Resurfacing: Request for no resurfacing at the Peewee and G14U levels. Motion was made by SFYH & 2nd by Brandon Valley to accept the proposal as written. Motion failed with 9 no & 6 yes votes!

5. Playing Rule 8 c Resurfacing: Request to only resurface between periods 2 & 3 at the Boys JV level.

Motion was made by SFYH & 2nd by AHA to accept the proposal as written. Motion withdrawn after discussion.

Motion to amend by OHA & 2nd by Treasurer Scheel, for grammatical changes within the playing rules. Motion withdrawn after discussion.

Motion by OHA & 2nd by WHA to institute a policy change for resurfacing only during the 2nd & 3rd periods at Boys JV & to empower the Executive Committee to convey the changes in the playing rules appropriately.

6. State Tournament Rule 16 Gate Receipts: Requests to make the gate fees equitable for youth and girls hockey.

Motion was made by treasurer Scheel & 2nd by Brookings to accept the proposal as written.

After discussion, an amendment to the proposal was made by WHA & 2nd by AHA to set a single gate fee for ALL SDAHA State Tournaments of \$20 for a single weekend pass, \$10 for a single daily pass & \$45 for a family weekend pass. President Leif called for a vote to accept the amendment to the motion which was passed unanimously. President Leif then called for a vote on the motion which passed unanimously.

7. SDAHA Officials Compensation: Request for an increase in game compensation & travel pay for SDAHA officials.

Motion was made by SFYH & 2nd by HHA to accept the proposal as written. RIC Ahlberg explained the proposal and request and noted there had not been a change to the compensation for seven years. Motion passed unanimously!

Duane & Juli Duden were in attendance at the meeting to request that Siouxland Sled hockey be authorized to become part of SDAHA versus their current location as part of the midwest league. SDAHA has been very instrumental in helping them with gear, sleds and donations

along with opportunities for setting up try sled hockey events and locations to host games and tournaments. Moving their location address to SF will also help them with some radius requirements when rostering their players. Siouxland Sled Hockey is their own entity with their own board, registrar, scheduler & non profit license.

A motion was made by BISA & 2nd by Yankton to approve Siouxland Sled Hockey to join SDAHA with NO voting rights. Motion passed unanimously!

Discussion Items:

A referee information session was led by Jared Ahlberg. Topics included recruiting, mentoring, training, officials seminars, spectator/coach behavior & a performance review system for officials. For the 2022-2023 emphasis will be placed on implementing an online system for reviewing officials, referee communication with coaches and captains and protecting our young officials from abuse. SDAHA will be purchasing green arm bands which new officials will be able to wear while they are working games to signify to coaches, players & fans they are new to the game and “off limits” to criticism on the ice.

President Leif led a discussion on SDAHA rosters and things we can do better to stay in compliance for the next season. Registrar training, game stickers and periodic checks on rosters were all discussed. President Leif noted to expect action items to be brought to the Fall Meeting to ensure compliance in our locals.

Executive Director Wirkus is looking for a group of volunteers interested in helping come up with some scholarship fundraising ideas such as events, raffles, sponsorships, etc. She will be reaching out to the associations to see if they have anyone in their association that may be interested in joining a committee.

WHA added to the agenda the “Hometown” rule. Discuss was had on players initial assignments to an association and the process for player transfers.

Election of Officers:

President Leif advised that the nominating committee had one interested party for the position of SDAHA Vice President, Dan French. Nominations from the floor were opened and hearing none, a unanimous vote was cast for Dan French. Motion was made by OHA and 2nd by WHA. Motion Passed unanimously!

President Leif advised that the nominating committee had one interested party for the position of SDAHA Treasurer, Jeff Scheel. Nominations from the floor were opened and hearing none, a unanimous vote was cast for Jeff Scheel. Motion was made by OHA and 2nd by HHA. Motion Passed with 12 yes votes and Treasurer Scheel abstaining!

President Leif advised that the nominating committee had one interested party for the position of SDAHA Secretary which is open for a one year term, Randy Honkomp. Nominations from the floor were opened and hearing none, a unanimous vote was cast for Randy Honkomp. Motion was made by HHA and 2nd by AHA. Motion Passed unanimously!

Fall Meeting Saturday September 17th, 2022 in Watertown.

Motion to adjourn @ 3:47 PM by OHA second by WHA, Motion Passed!